



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.7708 | FAX (517) 373.1450

[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/gilbert/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/gilbert/)

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Contact: Scott Starr

(517) 373-7708

## **M-24 Project Restoration Recommended to State Transportation Commission**

*Gilbert Applauds Administration's Decision to Move Project Forward*

**(LANSING)** – Residents of Lapeer County may soon see a major portion of M-24 restored after Gov. Granholm recommended the project's reinstatement to the State Transportation Commission, Sen. Jud Gilbert, R-Algonac, announced today.

"This is good news for the residents of Lapeer County," Gilbert said. "Due to its proximity to metro Detroit and Flint, Lapeer County is one of the fastest growing areas in our state. The area is attracting new and diverse businesses, which are working to fuel economic growth in Michigan. Providing adequate road infrastructure for this growth is a step in the right direction"

Earlier this year, Gov. Granholm and the Michigan Department of Transportation announced they were postponing 34 capacity road improvement projects across the state, including M-24 in Lapeer County. The administration's willingness to recommend the project's reinstatement came following intense budget negotiations between the Governor and Legislature.

Construction on M-24 between I-69 and Pratt Road is scheduled to begin in late 2005, with \$25 million allocated to complete the project. The dollar figure alone makes it one of the largest projects reinstated statewide.

"I am pleased to announce that the M-24 project is anticipated to move forward as scheduled," Gilbert said. "The safety concerns and business development issues cited by the Lapeer County community have been heard and resolved."